

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A communications device having first and second modes of operation, where
2 in the first mode of operation a display built into the device displays information for
3 direct viewing by a user, and where in the second mode of operation the display built
4 into the device projects information onto a reflective surface for viewing by the user.

1 2. The communications device as recited in claim 1, wherein the first mode of
2 operation the display displays the information at such a size that the information is
3 legible when viewed directly by the user, and wherein the second mode of operation
4 the display projects the information onto the reflective surface at a size larger than
5 when the information is displayed for direct viewing by the user.

1 3. The communications device as recited in claim 2, wherein the information
2 projected onto the reflective surface appears as if it were being displayed by a display
3 device larger than the display.

1 4. The communications device as recited in claim 1, wherein the first mode of
2 operation the display is viewable by the user through a window in a cover while in a
3 closed position, and wherein the second mode of operation the cover is in an open
4 position.

1 5. The communications device as recited in claim 4, wherein the information is
2 also viewable directly by the user with the cover in the open position.

1 6. The communications device as recited in claim 1, further comprising an input
2 device that permits input by the user when in either the first or second modes of
3 operation.

- 1 7. The communications device as recited in claim 1, wherein the device is a
- 2 telephone that permits the user to conduct a conversation while also viewing the
- 3 display.

1 8. A personal communications device comprising:
2 a main body having a built-in display;
3 a cover hingably attached to the main body, wherein the display is viewable by
4 a user through an opening in the cover when the cover is in a closed position with
5 respect to the main body; and
6 a reflective surface attached to the main body for reflecting images projected
7 by the display when the cover is in an open position with respect to the main body.

1 9. The device as recited in claim 8, further comprising:
2 wireless telephone circuitry for permitting the user to conduct a telephone
3 conversation, including a speaker in the cover and a microphone, wherein the user can
4 view the images projected onto the reflective surface while holding the device to a
5 side of the user's face to conduct the telephone conversation.

1 10. The device as recited in claim 9, wherein the reflective surface and the display
2 are both hingably attached to the main body and are hinged to open positions for
3 projection of the images from the display to the reflective surface.

1 11. The device as recited in claim 10, wherein the images are rotated 90 degrees
2 when projected onto the reflective surface from an orientation when displayed by the
3 display when it is in a closed position.

1 12. The device as recited in claim 9, further comprising:
2 an input device for moving and selecting items displayed on the display by the
3 user.

1 13. A personal communication device comprising a dual mode display for a user's
2 viewing in both a direct-view mode, wherein sufficiently-sized characters are displayed
3 in a manner visible to the user without further magnification, and in "projection-view"
4 mode, wherein more content can be displayed over that of the direct-view mode.

1 14. The device of claim 13, further comprising a tri-mode display for a user's
2 viewing in both an open direct-view mode, wherein sufficiently-sized characters are
3 displayed in a manner visible to the user without further magnification when a lid is
4 in an open position, a closed direct-view mode, wherein sufficiently-sized characters
5 are displayed in a manner visible to the user without further magnification when the
6 lid is in a closed position, and in "projection-view" mode, wherein more content can
7 be displayed over that of direct-view mode.